

# CROP-WEATHER REPORT

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For Month Ending: March 27, 2005

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct  
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

 MONTANA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE  
10 W 15th St Suite 3100  
Helena, MT 59626-0033  
(406) 441-1240 or 1-800-835-2612  
[www.nass.usda.gov/mt/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/)  
[nass-mt@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-mt@nass.usda.gov)

## Agricultural Summary

March brought near normal temperatures and widespread precipitation. Cascade received the highest amount of precipitation for the month of March at 2.03 inches.

The weather outlook for the week of April 14-20, is for above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation for the State. Normal temperatures for this period are from the teens to upper 30s and highs from the mid 40s to mid 50s.

### Soil Moisture Condition Table

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
<b>Topsoil Moisture</b>			
Very Short	22	53	22
Short	33	32	28
Adequate	41	14	48
Surplus	4	1	2
<b>Subsoil Moisture</b>			
Very Short	55	61	31
Short	31	30	38
Adequate	13	9	30
Surplus	1	0	1

## Field Crops and Livestock Report

Over the past month, there has been a slight decrease in both wind and freeze damage to the winter wheat crop. The winter wheat condition is virtually unchanged from the previous month's ratings. The winter wheat crop continues to green but is still behind last year's ratings. Spring tillage work has begun in selected locations with small grains planting underway.

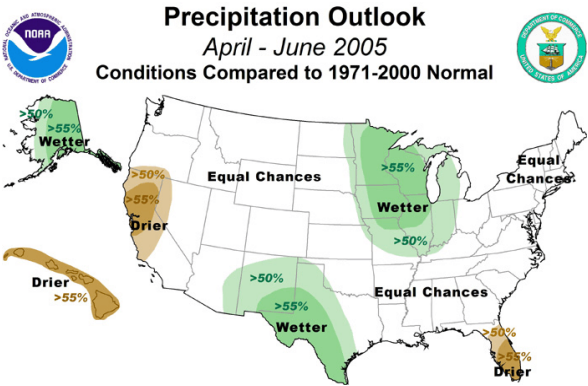
Livestock grazing is 71 percent open for grazing, compared to last year's rating of 60 percent open. Calving and lambing are underway at 55 and 47 percent, respectively. Even with large portions of the grazing land open, the vast majority of livestock are still receiving supplemental feed.

### Crop Table

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
<b>Winter Wheat - Condition</b>			
Very Poor	1	1	8
Poor	11	11	12
Fair	44	40	33
Good	38	45	40
Excellent	6	3	7
<b>Winter Wheat - Wind Damage</b>			
None	50	39	48
Light	33	35	29
Moderate	15	22	18
Heavy	2	4	5
<b>Winter Wheat - Freeze &amp; Drought Damage</b>			
None	43	31	53
Light	39	46	24
Moderate	15	20	19
Heavy	3	3	4
<b>Winter Wheat - Spring Stages</b>			
Still Dormant	36	67	23
Greening	55	33	64
Green and Growing	9	0	13
<b>Winter Wheat - Protectiveness of Snow Cover Condition</b>			
Very Poor	59	91	n/a
Poor	8	8	n/a
Fair	14	1	n/a
Good	11	0	n/a
Excellent	8	0	n/a

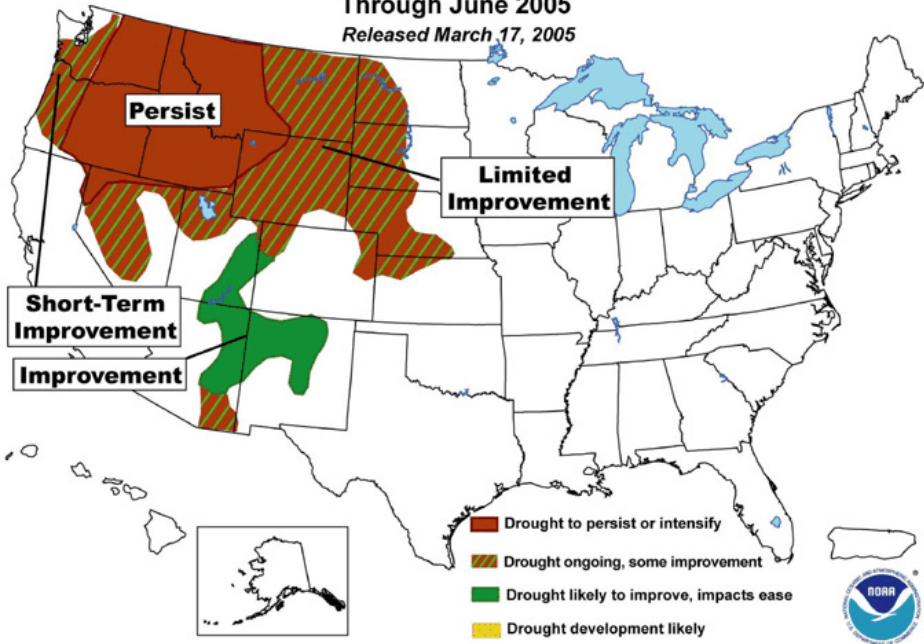
### Livestock Table

	This Month	Last Month	Last Year
<b>Livestock Grazing</b>			
Open	71	82	60
Difficult	18	10	9
Closed	11	8	31
<b>Receiving Supplemental Feed</b>			
Cattle	94	97	100
Sheep and Lambs	84	96	100
<b>Calving Completed</b>			
	55	34	52
<b>Lambing Completed</b>			
	47	18	39



## U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

Through June 2005  
Released March 17, 2005



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:  
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:  
MSU Extension Agents

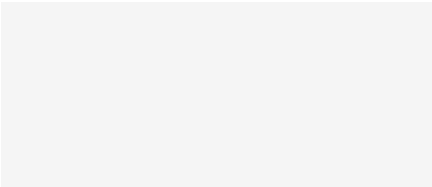
USDA County Service Centers  
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Month Ending: March 26, 2005 1/

STATION	PRECIPITATION					
	January 2005			October 1, 2004 to Date		
	Total	Normal	% Normal	Total 2/	Normal 3/	% Normal
NORTHWEST						
Drummond	0.76	0.75	101	2.44	4.39	56
Hamilton	0.40	0.91	44	1.49	5.76	26
Kalispell	0.73	1.11	66	4.88	7.61	64
Libby	M	M	M	M	M	M
Missoula	0.72	0.96	75	2.80	5.58	50
Polson	0.56	1.04	54	4.11	6.26	66
Superior	0.50	1.26	40	3.76	8.11	46
Thompson Falls	M	M	M	M	M	M
West Glacier	M	M	M	14.56	15.27	95
NORTH CENTRAL						
Chester	0.66	0.51	129	2.13	2.30	93
Choteau	M	M	M	M	M	M
Conrad	M	M	M	M	M	M
Cut Bank	0.29	0.55	53	1.26	2.35	54
Ft. Benton	1.08	0.85	127	3.41	3.51	97
Gold Butte	0.91	0.70	130	2.88	3.01	96
Harlem	1.13	0.38	297	2.54	2.40	106
Havre	0.37	0.70	53	1.34	3.00	45
Malta	0.59	0.59	100	2.29	2.85	80
Shelby	0.27	0.51	53	2.77	2.45	113
Turner	1.02	0.39	262	2.06	2.19	94
Valier	0.54	0.50	108	2.09	2.23	94
NORTHEAST						
Culbertson	0.46	0.49	94	2.26	2.60	87
Glasgow	0.58	0.47	123	1.99	2.47	81
Glendive	0.33	0.57	58	3.45	3.11	111
Jordan	0.41	0.61	67	2.06	3.21	64
Plentywood	M	M	M	M	M	M
Scobey	0.18	0.54	33	1.74	2.17	80
Sidney	0.69	0.56	123	3.10	3.38	92
Wolf Point	0.32	0.50	64	1.16	2.56	45
CENTRAL						
Cascade	M	M	M	4.27	3.39	126
Flatwillow	M	M	M	2.43	3.35	73
Great Falls	0.94	1.01	93	2.75	4.23	65
Harlowton	0.69	0.73	95	2.46	3.23	76
Helena	0.70	0.63	111	1.89	3.03	62
Lewistown	1.07	1.16	92	3.14	5.06	62
Melstone	M	M	M	M	M	M
Roundup	0.68	0.64	106	3.36	3.16	106
Stanford	1.61	0.98	164	3.61	4.28	84
White Sulphur Spr	0.86	0.84	102	2.17	3.45	63
SOUTHWEST						
Anaconda	0.96	1.04	92	3.17	4.22	75
Belgrade	0.60	1.02	59	2.86	4.49	64
Bozeman MSU	0.74	1.40	53	5.03	6.21	81
Butte	0.61	0.83	73	1.68	3.62	46
Dillon	0.25	0.66	38	1.49	2.76	54
Ennis	0.41	0.88	47	2.60	3.75	69
Wisdom	0.59	0.67	88	2.25	3.94	57
SOUTH CENTRAL						
Billings	0.66	1.12	59	3.10	5.01	62
Gardiner	0.32	0.63	51	3.52	3.07	115
Hardin	0.44	0.67	66	2.60	3.88	67
Livingston	0.65	0.85	76	3.41	4.33	79
Rapelje	M	M	M	4.06	4.52	90
Red Lodge	M	M	M	5.77	8.82	65
SOUTHEAST						
Baker	0.43	0.61	70	3.13	3.64	86
Broadus	0.38	0.87	44	2.26	3.96	57
Ekalaka	0.60	0.81	74	3.21	4.73	68
Miles City	0.32	0.58	55	2.35	3.43	69

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.  
Peggy Stringer, State Statistician  
Stephen Brueske, Meteorologist-in-Charge  
National Weather Service - (406) 453-2081  
Dr. LeRoy Luft, Director of Extension  
Montana State University

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